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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 1638

In re

Patent Application of

Vincent L. Chiang, et. al.

Application No. 09/980,043

Confirmation No. 9579

Filed: April 5, 2002

Examiner: Medina Ahmed Ibrahim

"METHOD OF ENHANCING CELLULOSE AND MODIFYING LIGNIN  
BIOSYNTHESIS IN PLANTS"

I, Diane J. Frauchiger, hereby certify that this correspondence is  
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*Diane J. Frauchiger*  
Signature

*April 23 2003*  
Date of Signature

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits, please amend the subject application as  
follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 8 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 20 of this paper.